

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The foregoing amendment and the following arguments are provided to impart precision to the claims, by more particularly pointing out the invention, rather than to avoid prior art.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections

Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-8, 10-12, 14-16, 21 and 24-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable by U.S. Patent No. 6,160,796 (hereinafter "Zou") in view of U.S. Patent No 6,366,926 (hereinafter "Pohlmann").

Claim 1 includes a limitation of wherein the adding and the notifying proceed independently of each other. Neither Zou nor Pohlmann include such a limitation, and as a result, claim 1 is patentable over Zou and Pohlmann.

Specifically, Zou does not teach adding a request to a list of requests, as in claim 1. Pohlmann teaches where an event manager receives events, maintains a list of subscriptions and routes events to subscribers (Col. 4, lines 41-46). All functions are performed by a specific event manager (see, e.g., Col. 5, lines 16-28), and Pohlmann does not teach performing these functions independently of each other. The event manager, at the same time it receives a subscription request, checks the "blackboard" to see if any outstanding events match the incoming request (Col. 5, lines 21-24). Since the event manager checks the events, and notifies the subscriber of outstanding events in response to receiving a subscription request, the adding and notifying processes are not independent. As a result, not all the limitations of claim 1 are taught by Pohlmann or Zou, and claim 1 is patentable over Zou and Pohlmann.

Additionally, Pohlmann teaches away from a combination with Zou. Specifically, Zou states that high level applications need a persistent identifier for

devices coupled to the network (Col. 2, lines 40-45). The connected devices should maintain the same IDs after a bus reset. Pohlmann teaches that clients subscribing to events are responsible for reestablishing their subscriptions across new invocations of the event manager (Col. 4, lines 59-63). A subscription is assigned a unique ID when it is formed (Col. 5, lines 29-39), which may not match an ID previously assigned to the client. Pohlmann does not teach a way to maintain persistent IDs. Since maintaining persistent IDs is a stated goal of Zou, Pohlmann teaches away from a combination with Zou.

Claims 12, 16, and 21 include a limitation similar to that of claim 1. For the same reasons as discussed with respect to claim 1, claims 12, 16, and 21 are also patentable over Zou and Pohlmann. Claim 8 includes a limitation of wherein a means for adding and a means for notifying operate independently of each other. For the same reasons as discussed above, namely that Pohlmann teaches where a client is notified in response to an event manager receiving a subscription request, claim 8 is patentable over Zou and Pohlmann.

Dependent claims 3-7, 10, 11, 14, 15 and 24-26 depend from the above-discussed independent claims and therefore include the limitations of these claims. As a result, claims 3-7, 10, 11, 14, 15 and 24-26 are patentable over Zou and Pohlmann.

Examiner rejected claims 22 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable by U.S. Patent No. 6,160,796 (hereinafter "Zou") in view of U.S. Patent No 6,366,926 (hereinafter "Pohlmann") as applied to claims 1, 3-8, 10-12, 14-16, 18-21 and 24-26 above and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,311,242 (hereinafter "Falkenburg").

Claims 22 and 23 depend from claim 21, and therefore include all the limitations of claim 21. Since claim 21 is patentable over Zou and Pohlmann, claims 22 and 23 are patentable over Zou, Pohlmann, and Falkenberg.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call Arlen M. Hartounian at (408) 720-8300.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arlen M. Hartounian', is written over a horizontal line.

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